

Grammar

PAST SIMPLE AND PAST CONTINUOUS

1. Choose the sentence that is closer in meaning to the original sentence.

- It was raining when we left for school this morning.
 - We left for school in the rain.
 - It started to rain after we left for school.
- Mum came home while we were having dinner.
 - We began eating when Mum came home.
 - We were in the middle of dinner when Mum came home.
- Ann was studying for an exam while I was playing computer games.
 - Ann was studying at the same time that I was playing computer games.
 - Ann and I were playing computer games and studying at the same time.
- I did my homework, watched some TV and went to sleep.
 - I watched TV when I finished my homework.
 - I watched TV and did my homework at the same time.

2. Choose the correct answer.

- Sally ... an ice cream when I saw her.
 - ate
 - was eating
- The woman suddenly ... at me.
 - shouted
 - was shouting
- I slipped while I ... to catch the bus.
 - ran
 - was running
- The train ... an hour ago.
 - was arriving
 - arrived
- I ... John when he was in hospital last week.
 - visited
 - was visiting
- We tried not to make any noise because everyone
 - slept
 - was sleeping
- Who ... to at 7.00 in the morning?
 - did you talk
 - were you talking

3. Complete the sentences with the verbs in brackets. Use the Past Simple or Past Continuous.

- When Cathy and Peter ... (be) in Britain, they ... (drive) from London to Edinburgh.
- We ... (have) so much fun that we ... (not want) to get out of the swimming pool.
- Who ... (play) the radio so loudly while I ... (try) to sleep?
- When we ... (arrive), light rain ... (fall).
- What ... you ... (do) at 10 o'clock last night?
- The headmaster ... (come in) while we ... (have) a lesson.
- While Leo ... (get dressed), he ... (notice) a hole in his shirt.
- She ... (run) when she ... (fall).

4. Write questions with the words below. Use the Past Simple or Past Continuous.

- what / Jill / do / while / the other girls / wait / for / her
.....
- you / enjoy / the party / last night
.....
- who / you / shout at / when / I / see you
.....
- what / Mrs Green / do / at the bank / all morning
.....
- why / Jane / cry / when / I / see / her / yesterday
.....
- when / they / hear / about the accident
.....
- your parents / take / a taxi / when / they / arrive
.....

5. Rewrite the sentences with words in brackets. Do not change the original meaning of the sentences.

- Sam finished his homework during the film. (watching)
.....
- It was midnight but we continued to study. (at)
.....
- I took the bus to school and met Amy. (while)
.....
- We stayed home because of the rain. (was)
.....